

DRAFT

MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL
OF THE
CITY OF GREENSBORO, N. C.

SPECIAL MEETING:

28 JUNE 2001

Pursuant to Council action at the regular meeting of 15 May 2001, the City Council of the City of Greensboro met in special session in City Council District Two at 6:00 p.m. on the above date in the Guilford County Agricultural Center, 3309 Burlington Road, Greensboro, NC, with the following members present: Mayor Keith A. Holliday, presiding; Councilmembers Claudette Burroughs-White, Sandra G. Carmany, Yvonne J. Johnson, Earl F. Jones, Thomas M. Phillips, Donald R. Vaughan and Nancy Vaughan. Absent: Councilmember Robert V. Perkins, excused by action of Council. Also present were J. Edward Kitchen, City Manager; Linda A. Miles, City Attorney; and Juanita F. Cooper, City Clerk.

The Mayor explained the special procedures for conduct of this District Two Council meeting. Mayor Holliday stated that the purpose of this meeting was for Council to listen to citizens' concerns and requested that speakers' comments be related to this Council District.

After the meeting was opened with a moment of silence, Councilmember Burroughs-White led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

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The Manager recognized Connie Ferguson, employee in the Organizational Development and Communications Department, who served as courier for the meeting.

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The Mayor recognized and expressed appreciation to the City Clerk for her work with the City Council. He also expressed appreciation to Jim Collins and his staff, Channel 13, Organizational Development and Communications Department, for their excellent work in making this District meeting possible.

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Councilmember Carmany moved that Councilmember Perkins be excused from attendance at this meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Jones and adopted unanimously by voice vote of Council.

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The following members of the City staff used slide presentations to provide detailed information about specific Council District Two issues: Heidi Galanti, Planning Department--an update on Comprehensive Planning; Keith Pugh, Facilities Engineering Division of the Engineering and Inspections Department--an overview of Council District Two's Bond Projects; Butch Simmons, Inspections Division on the Engineering and Inspections Department--an update on Local Ordinance Enforcement Issues; and Jeryl Covington, Environmental Services Department Director--a presentation on the Landfill. (A copy of each slide presentation is filed in Exhibit Drawer N, Exhibit Number 22, which is hereby referred to and made a part of these minutes.)

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Celestine Simmons, residing at 612 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive; and John Saunders, residing at 1027 Pearson Street; residents of the Ole Asheboro Neighborhood; expressed concerns with code enforcement violations on properties owned by absentee landlords and ongoing criminal activity in this area; i.e., drugs, prostitution, etc. Members of

Council asked the City Attorney to investigate and determine whether a new ordinance could be adopted which would require more accountability for absentee landlords and renters for various code enforcement violations.

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Charles C. Beck, residing at 3906 Eastland Avenue, expressed his concern with respect to long-term code enforcement violations at 3908 and 3910 Eastland Avenue, which he believed had not been appropriately addressed by City Staff. Mr. Beck was asked to discuss specific details about his concerns with Steve Kennedy, Director of the Engineering and Inspections Department, who was present at this meeting.

The following speakers expressed individual opinions, concerns and/or details about their experiences related the White Street Landfill located in the Northeast Area. They offered personal opinions with regard to options Council could consider when addressing the issue of solid waste management in Greensboro, expressed concern with the possible expansion of the White Street Landfill, and questioned directions for the recent consultants' study of solid waste management options for Greensboro. A large number of citizens attending the meeting stood in support of closing the existing landfill. The speakers expressed their opinions and concerns with problems associated with the location and operation of the landfill operation; i.e., odor; problems with truck traffic on White Street—noise, speeding traffic, noise, etc.; impact on the environment; health problems of some residents; negative impact on the quality of life of area residents; and problems with rodents and other pests which frequent the landfill site. Some of the speakers also expressed their belief that the Northeast Area of Greensboro had received not received equitable treatment because other, less desirable uses were also located in the area; i.e., wastewater treatment plant, Kmart Distribution Center, etc. and stated they believed much-needed enhancements should be made to the area.

- Jeff Roberts, residing at 5 Nealtown Way;
- Harold C. Fields, residing at 1903 Belden Drive;
- Betty Thompson, residing at 3318 South Elm-Eugene Street;
- Stanle Vincent, residing at 1907 Belden Street;
- Goldie F. Wells, residing at 4203 Belfield Drive;
- Morris Lewis, residing at 1709 Bashford Lane and representing his church on Huffine Mill Road;
- Joseph Duke, residing at 1902 White Street and representing his church;
- John R. Brincefield, residing at 507 Balboa Street;
- Valerie Rechten, residing at 1512 Double Oaks Road;
- Ron Goga, residing at 733 Old Mill Road;
- Loreatha Graves, residing at 1246 Woodbriar Avenue;
- Mary Lou Clapp, residing at 603 Cardella Drive;
- Henry A. Collins, residing at 3904 Hickory Tree Lane;
- Woodrow Winchester, residing at 912 Fairgreen Road;
- Darryl Dockery, residing at 1707 Lord Foxley Drive;
- James T. Prevatt, Jr., residing at 5104 Ainsworth Drive; and
- Mary E. Whittington, residing at 1608 Sir Galahad Road.

Bill Waller, residing at 4540 Peoples Road, Oak Ridge, NC, and representing a non-profit development company, spoke to the company's plans to construct new homes near the landfill and expressed the desire that the existing landfill would be closed.

Some members of Council offered personal comments about the White Street Landfill, stated that citizens believed that Council would pursue other solid waste management options, stated the proposed housing development would provide affordable housing and help revitalize this area of the northeast, and discussed the timeframe in which Council should address solid waste management options for Greensboro.

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Councilmember Phillips left the meeting at 8:20 p.m. during speakers from the floor.

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Mary Zimmerman, residing at 2304 Wilcox Road, also expressed her concerns with respect to the landfill and cited various problems experienced by Northeast Greensboro; i.e., the poor condition of Summit Avenue and other streets, overgrown lots, site obstruction problems at some intersections, problems created by absentee landlords and the need to bring businesses to the area to serve the community.

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Jessica Foster, residing at 4311 Belfield Drive, expressed concern with regard to the absence of enough Spanish-speaking law enforcement officers in Greensboro and requested additional financial compensation to ensure the Police Department could adequately meet the needs of the community's Hispanic citizens.

Chief White briefly detailed his Department's past efforts to offer off-duty, Spanish speaking police officers compensatory time to provide this service when needed. He spoke to the number of police officers who were either fluent in or had law enforcement Spanish and noted the Police Department's aggressive recruitment of bilingual law enforcement officers to meet community needs.

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Glenn A. Sankoh, residing at 910 Salem Street; cited problems created by absentee landlords in his neighborhood; i.e., renting to tenants who participated in criminal activities, violating code enforcement regulations, etc.

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Jack Zimmerman, residing at 2304 Wilcox Drive, voiced concern with regard to criminal activity in the Northeast Area and problems created by absentee landlords; he also stated he believed incineration was the best option for solid waste disposal.

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Jim Kee, residing at 4411 Belfield Drive, read sections of the City of Greensboro Comprehensive Plan, offered his opinion about problems that were unique to this area of Greensboro, spoke in favor of economic development in the Northeast Area and requested that the City Council listen to the concerns expressed by the residents at this meeting.

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Cameron Falkener, residing at 133 North Dudley Street, spoke to the need for incentives for businesses to locate in Northeast Greensboro to provide services to area residents, requested that Council listen to citizens' concerns and make a decision about the White Street landfill, and stated he believed the City should support the Civil Rights Museum.

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A number of citizens expressed appreciation to Council for scheduling a meeting in District Two. Some members of Council commended Councilmember Don Vaughan for suggesting that the Council conduct District meetings.

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Mayor Holliday expressed appreciation to the citizens of Council District Two for their attendance and input, thanked the members of City staff who were present at the meeting, and advised that the next Council District meeting would be held in District One on July 31.

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After Councilmember Johnson mentioned the need for financial assistance for the Fun Fourth fireworks display and suggested that Council consider action to fund this display in an amount to be determined from the Council

Contingency Fund. It appeared to be the consensus of Council that this matter would be considered at a regular Council meeting.

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Councilmember Jones requested that Council discuss at the July 17 meeting the allocation of funds to human service agencies currently being held in abeyance.

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After brief discussion with Jim Westmoreland, Transportation Department Director, with regard to the installation of raised pavement markings (reflectors) on certain City streets, Councilmember Burroughs-White requested that he advise if Summit Avenue was one of the streets selected for the markings.

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Councilmember D. Vaughan moved that the City Council adjourn. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Jones and adopted unanimously by voice vote of the Council.

THE CITY COUNCIL ADJOURNED AT 9:50 P.M.

KEITH A. HOLLIDAY
MAYOR

JUANITA F. COOPER
CITY CLERK
